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IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Application of: Fukutomi et al.

Group Art Unit: To be assigned

Serial No.: 10/042,408

Examiner: To be assigned

Filed: January 8, 2002

Attorney Docket No.: 7426-082

For: FABRICATION PROCESS OF...

SUPPLEMENTAL INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENTAssistant Commissioner for Patents
Washington, D.C. 20231

Sir:


Pursuant to 37 C.F.R. § 1.56, Applicants submit herewith the eight (8) references listed in the accompanying Form-PTO1449. Copies of the references are submitted herewith.

These references are not deemed to negate the patentability of the present claims. It is respectfully requested that the references be made of record in the application by the Examiner's completion and return of the PTO Form-1449.

The references contained in this Supplemental Information Disclosure Statement were cited in a communication from a foreign patent office in a counterpart foreign application, specifically, an "Notice of Reason for Refusal" by the Japanese Patent Office dated March 12, 2002, in connection with Japanese Patent Application No. 2001-237791. A copy of this Notice of Reason for Refusal and its English-language translation attached hereto as Exhibit A. The requirement for a concise explanation of relevance of information written in non-English language under 37 C.F.R. § 1.56(c) is satisfied by submitting the English-language translation of the Office Action (MPEP 609(A)).

This submission precedes the mailing date of the first Office Action on the merits and thus complies with the requirements for filing of an information disclosure statement under 37 C.F.R. § 1.97(b)(3). No fee is believed to be due for this submission. Should any fee be required, please charge same to Pennie & Edmonds LLP Deposit Account No. 16-1150.

Respectfully submitted,

Date: April 16, 2002
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(Reg. No.)

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Enclosures